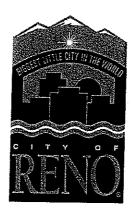
Robert A. Cashell, Sr. *Mayor*

(775) 334-2001 (775) 334-2097 Fax <u>cashellr@reno.gov</u> Web site: Reno.gov



"The most livable of Nevada cities; the focus of culture, commerce and tourism in northern Nevada."

May 3, 2012

Ms. Catherine Patterson, Branch Chief Assistance to Firefighters Grant Branch DHS/FEMA 800 K Street NW Mailstop 3620 Washington, DC 20472-3620

Dear Ms. Patterson,

The City of Reno wishes to thank you and your staff for all of the assistance you have provided to us regarding our FY 2010 SAFER award and pending FY 2011 SAFER application.

As you are aware, the City of Reno Fire Department is in the process of deconsolidating our Interlocal Agreement for Fire Services that has been in existence since 2000. The Washoe County Commission acting as the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) voted on June 28, 2011, to dissolve the consolidated fire agreement with the City of Reno. However, between June 28, 2011 and February 27, 2012, the City was in active negotiations with Washoe County to preserve the Interlocal Agreement. On February 27, 2012, the BOFC formally indicated that they were not going to reconsider their decision to dissolve the agreement and that termination would indeed take place effective July 1, 2012.

After deconsolidation, the Reno Fire Department's proposed FY 12-13 budget will only have sufficient funding for 186 firefighting positions. Currently, the consolidated fire department has 266 positions – 80 more than can be financially supported by the City alone after June 30, 2012. Ten of these 80 positions are the FY 2010 SAFER positions.

Our FY 2011 SAFER application was submitted for 24 re-hire positions. In light of the impending termination of our Interlocal Agreement for Fire Services, we would request that our application request be for 64 retention positions. This will allow us to maintain our existing FY 2010 SAFER positions, as well as eliminate the need for us to have to issue layoff notices to our firefighting employees.

The Reno City Council fully accepts and understands the long-term obligations and requirements of accepting the FY 2011SAFER grant and agrees to fulfill the requirements to maintain staffing levels and incur no layoffs during the two-year period of performance of the grant.

Ms. Catherine Patterson, Branch Chief May 3, 2012 Page 2

Please feel free to contact either myself, or Maureen McKissick, Strategic Development Administrator for the City of Reno, if you have any questions, or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Cashell, Sr.

Mayor

Sincerely,

Andrew K. Clinger City Manager